

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, May 4, 1953

The house met at eleven o'clock.

### → CRIMINAL CODE

Third and final report of special committee on the criminal law.—Mr. Brown (Essex West).

### LUNAM CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

#### TABLING OF RETURNS TO QUESTIONS

Hon. Alphonse Fournier (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, I wish to table reference No. 174, mover Mr. Diefenbaker: How many building or repair contracts have been granted to the Lunam Construction Company, Saskatchewan, since January 1, 1948;

Also reference No. 154, mover Mr. Diefenbaker: Correspondence between any department of the government and the Lunam Construction Company of Regina, having to do with failure to complete its subcontracts;

Also reference No. 215, mover Mr. Coldwell: Copy of progress reports signed by dominion public works architects, Saskatchewan, in connection with contracts awarded to the Lunam Construction Company of Regina.

This is only a partial report, relating to the Indian hospital at Fort Qu'Appelle. My officials have worked ever since the return was passed in the house to prepare these progress reports, and to have copies photographed and tabled. I had the pleasure of showing the originals to the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggar, and I asked him if he wished to have my officials continue working on these progress reports for all the other contracts, because I do not know if there would be any possibility of tabling them before the end of the session.

Mr. Coldwell: The minister has stated what is correct. I saw the other reports and I think if this one were tabled it would give an indication of the type of report it was.

Mr. Fleming: May I ask the minister if he is willing that these reports be referred to the public accounts committee for inquiry.

Mr. Fournier (Hull): I have absolutely no objection.

### REGULATIONS ACT

#### REPEAL OF SECRECY PROVISION RESPECTING ORDERS IN COUNCIL

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 365, to amend the Regulations Act.

He said: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to repeal the section of the Regulations Act, enacted in 1950, which gives the government the power to pass a regulation keeping secret any order in council, whether under the Emergency Powers Act or any other statute, which the government wishes to withhold from publication.

This bill would not affect any order now in effect, but it would prohibit the passing of any further secret orders in council under the Emergency Powers Act or under any other statute now in operation.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

### QUESTIONS

#### DEFENCE PRODUCTION—CONTRACTS FOR COFFEE

##### Mr. Goode:

1. What were the names of coffee importers tendering on government contracts to the amount of \$140,831 on the list published by the Department of Defence Production, March 16 to 31, 1953?
2. Was the T. H. Estabrooks Company Limited the lowest tenderer?
3. What British Columbia firms tendered on these orders?

Mr. Dickey: I have discussed this question with the hon. member who has agreed that this be dropped.

Mr. Goode: I should like to have the assurance of the parliamentary assistant that this large tender was awarded to the lowest tenderer. If I can get that assurance I am quite content to allow the question to be dropped.

Mr. Dickey: I can give the hon. member that assurance most definitely.

Mr. Speaker: Question dropped.

#### FISH CONSUMPTION

##### Mr. Balcom:

What was the per capita consumption of fish, per province in Canada for (a) 1951; (b) 1952?

Mr. MacNaught: Information is not available as trade statistics essential in such